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**December 15, 2017**

**NEWS RELEASE**

## **EPFD Responds to Condition 2 fire**

### **Firefighters respond to Condition 2 fire at 8000 block of Cook Dr.**

**EL PASO, Texas** – At approximately 12:07 p.m. on Friday December 15, 2017, the El Paso Fire Department was dispatched to the 8000 Block of Cook Dr. for a Condition 2 fire. A home health worker smelled smoke inside the residence and activated 9-1-1. Upon arriving on the scene at 12:11 p.m., crews saw heavy smoke and a working fire coming from the back corner of a single-story house. Firefighters began to simultaneously fight the fire and search for people inside. Firefighters did find and safely remove two small dogs that were still in the residence.

An off duty EPFD Investigator was in the area and also saw the smoke. He assisted the healthcare worker in getting two elderly females out of the house as firefighters arrived and began the fire attack. Crews knocked down the majority of the fire quickly, but had to get up in the attic to completely extinguish the fire. Crews remained on the scene checking for hot spots and investigating until after 3:00 p.m. About 50% of the house suffered fire damage and the entire residence suffered smoke and water damage. Damage is being estimated at \$45,000. The fire originated in the attic near the furnace of the home, but the cause is undetermined at this time pending further investigation.

There were no injuries to firefighters, a total of 15 fire units and 28 personnel from the El Paso Fire Department responded to this incident. EP Electric and Texas Gas assisted with the incident.

The El Paso Fire Department would like to remind the public that in less than 30 seconds, a small flame can get completely out of control and begin filling a home with thick, black, poisonous smoke. In just a few minutes, a home can become completely engulfed with flames. With the advance notice of a working smoke alarm, residents can escape with their lives. To request help with a home/work safety survey, escape plan or to inquire about smoke alarms, the public can call (915) 485-5699 or visit [www.elpasotexas.gov/fire-department/services](http://www.elpasotexas.gov/fire-department/services).

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*Promote Transparent and Consistent Communication Among All Members of the Community*